

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the first paragraph of page 12, beginning on line 11, and concluding on line 12 of page 13, please amended by deleting items marked with a strikeout (i.e. ~~patent~~) or brackets (i.e., ~~[[patent]]~~) and adding items marked with an underline (i.e. patent) as indicated below:

Referring now to FIG. 5a and FIG. 5b, the ramp 30 comprises an intermediate section 84, an upper section 86 detachably affixed to an end of the intermediate section, and a lower section 88 detachably affixed to an end of the intermediate section 84 opposite of the upper section 86. The upper section 86 and lower section 88 are collapsible about the intermediate section 84, either by foldably pivoting along locking pins 90 inserted to couple the upper section 86 to the intermediate section 84 and the lower section 88 to the intermediate section 84, respectively, or by removal of the locking pins 90 and laying the sections 84, 86 and 88, respectively, upon one another. The locking pins 90 are envisioned as having an outwardly biased ball bearing 92 (biased by a spring, commonly known in the art). The pins 90 are inserted through pin apertures 94a, 94b, 94c and 94d formed in the intermediate, upper and lower sections 84, 86 and 88, respectively. Pin apertures 94a are aligned with either pin apertures 94c or 94d with a pin 90 inserted therethrough, connecting either the upper or lower section 86 or 88 with intermediate section 84 via complimentary fit. Pin apertures ~~[[94]]~~ 94b are aligned with the remaining pin apertures 94c or 94d with a pin 90 inserted therethrough, connecting either the upper or lower section 86 or 88 with intermediate section 84 via complimentary fit. The pins 90 act to maintain the three sections 84, 86 and 88 in a relatively planar configuration so that ingress

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and egress from the cargo area 2 is easily achieved and the integrity of the ramp 30 is maintained. The ramp 30 allows for the loading and unloading of material to and from the cargo area 2 of a truck 1, and then after use, the convenient storage of the ramp 30 without consuming valuable space.